

should never immediately succeed another. The intercalation of a green crop (consisting of either grass, roots, peas, beans or clover, &c.,) between crops of grain, is considered absolutely necessary to preserve the soil from exhaustion. How long our newer soils will bear the system of farming with the rotations now prevalent in most of our counties, it is impossible to predict. We are unquestionably lessening the amount of plant food in the soil faster than its materials are being separated from their combinations, and made available to our crops.

It behooves farmers to turn their attention seriously to this subject so vitally important to our state; and to endeavor to change our present system for one better calculated to sustain the fertility of the soil.

In some of our counties, we find the following rotations :

	A.	B.
First year,	wheat.	corn or tobacco.
Second "	corn or tobacco.	wheat.
Third "	wheat or oats.	clover.
Fourth "	clover.	corn or tobacco.

In each of these we find grain crops succeeding one another, except on plantations where part of the fallow crop is tobacco, which, although less exhausting than wheat, is repeated too frequently for most soils. In the first case (a) we have three successive exhausting crops to one crop of clover—or clover once in four years. In the second, (b) clover comes in every third year.

In some of the upper counties the rotations are as follows :

	C.	D.
First year,	corn.	corn.
Second "	oats.	oats.
Third "	clover.	wheat.
Fourth "	"	clover.
Fifth "	wheat.	"
Sixth "	{ timothy and clover.	} timothy and clover.

The timothy is permitted to remain two years and upwards, according to circumstances.

The first, (c) is calculated to sustain the soil for a very long period, provided the clover, timothy and straw, be consumed on the farm. The second, (d) includes three successive grain crops, and, except on rich soil, requires an abundance of manure to secure the wheat crop, which is the third in the succession.

There is one good feature in both, which is, that the soil is copiously supplied with humus by the clover and the grass, and these being consumed on the farm by the stock, increase the